

~~TOP SECRET~~

MAY 4 1951

General Omar N. Bradley
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of Defense
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Bradley:

This is with reference to our letter of 2 March 1951, forwarding estimates of the support needed by the Central Intelligence Agency from the Department of Defense. In this letter it was stated that within sixty days we would forward to you an estimate of the support required to complete the organization of a professional clandestine intelligence service and to conduct covert operations on a global basis under continued conditions of cold war.

In the interim it has become apparent that it is necessary to obtain from the National Security Council a decision as to the extent of cold war activities that should be carried on by this agency prior to the outbreak of general hostilities. To this end we have forwarded to the NSC a memorandum requesting a decision on the magnitude of our covert operations.

Inasmuch as the decision of the NSC may drastically affect the degree of support required by the CIA from the Department of Defense, we will withhold forwarding our overall requirements both for covert operations and clandestine intelligence for the time being. As soon as a decision is made by the NSC we will present these requirements to you.

Faithfully,

S/ASB

Attachment - (copy of CIA 2 March letter)
#43690

O/DCI LBK:mlk

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